



HR0705

LRB099 13701 MST 37660 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Kathy McSwain on the occasion of her retirement as Director of the Chicago Ridge Public Library on August 14, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Kathy McSwain grew up in the Village of Oak Lawn and began her library career as a page at the Oak Lawn Public Library; and

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WHEREAS, Kathy McSwain earned a Master of Library Science from Rosary College in 1980, and building upon a love of children and an appreciation of children's literature, she began her professional career as Children's Librarian at the Bedford Park Public Library in 1981; and

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WHEREAS, In 1987, Kathy McSwain became Head of Youth Services at the Chicago Ridge Public Library, providing creative programming - from leading story times to organizing successful community-wide summer reading programs; she was awarded the Rita A. Bert Librarianship Award in 1992 for providing exemplary library services to youth; and

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WHEREAS, Kathy McSwain assumed directorship of the Chicago Ridge Public Library in 1999; under her leadership, the library

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1 expanded programs and services for the community, resulting in  
2 increased awareness of the library and an upsurge of usage;  
3 many service organizations throughout Chicago Ridge have  
4 received donations from the library's successful Quilting  
5 Program, which was recognized with the Illinois Library  
6 Association Highsmith Innovative Library Award in 2004; and

7 WHEREAS, Kathy McSwain was the driving force behind the  
8 planning and design of the expansion project that modernized  
9 and added over 10,000 square feet to the library; and

10 WHEREAS, Kathy McSwain's deep commitment to library  
11 advocacy on a local, system, and statewide level included  
12 establishing the Illinois Library Day Legislative Breakfast at  
13 the Illinois State Library; she has earned the admiration and  
14 respect of her peers, and, in 2010, she received the Robert  
15 McClarren Legislative Development Award for Library Advocacy  
16 from the Illinois Library Association; and

17 WHEREAS, Kathy McSwain has served on the governing boards  
18 of professional organizations such as the Library  
19 Administrators Conference of Northern Illinois (LACONI), Area  
20 Training for Library Administrators and Staff (ATLAS), and  
21 numerous others; she has mentored countless librarians and has  
22 always been generous in sharing her expertise with those new to  
23 the profession; and

1           WHEREAS, Over her 28 years of dedicated service to the  
2 residents of Chicago Ridge, Kathy McSwain's proudest  
3 accomplishment is seeing patrons who visited the library as  
4 children now bringing their own children to the library;  
5 therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
8 offer our sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Kathy  
9 McSwain on her retirement as Director of the Chicago Ridge  
10 Public Library, and we wish her continued success and  
11 fulfillment in her life and with all her future plans; and be  
12 it further

13           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to Kathy McSwain as an expression of our esteem and  
15 respect.